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PCT EP96 08414

23 DEC 95

23 DEC 97

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NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371
AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495

1. The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated Office (37 CFR 1.494), ☒ an Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is **ACCEPTED** for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

2. The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

19 July 2000

19 July 2000

35 U.S.C. 102(e) DATE

DATE OF RECEIPT OF

35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-105X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371(C) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(b) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

3. ☒ A request for immediate examination under 35 U.S.C. 371(e) was received on 23 June 2000 and the application will be examined in turn.

4. The following items have been received:

☒ U.S. Basic National Fee☒ Copy of the international application in:☒ a non-English language☐ English☒ Translation of the international application into English☒ Oath or Declaration of inventor(s) for DOL-US☐ Copy of Article 19 amendments ☐ Translation of Article 19 amendments into EnglishThe Article 19 amendments ☐ have ☐ have not been entered☒ The International Preliminary Examination Report in English and its Annexes, if any☐ Copy of the Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPIR)☐ Translation of Annexes to the IPIR into EnglishThe Annexes ☐ have ☐ have not been entered☒ Preliminary amendments filed 23 June 2000 and☐ Information Disclosure Statements filed and☒ Assignment document☒ Power of Attorney and/or Change of Address☐ Separate specification filed☐ Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status☒ Priority Document☒ Copy of the International Search Report ☒ and copies of the references cited therein☐ Other:

Applicant is reminded that it is responsible for maintaining the status of this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Intellectual Property Laws, including 35 U.S.C. 371.

Deborah Williams